

more importantly, with the introduction of initiative programs, student recruitment, retention and overall enrollment are on the rise.

"You are seeing in this budget the results of a maturing university that is regaining very quickly the ability to generate significant amounts of dollars," Hamilton told a reporter who covered the Board of Regents meeting in Fairbanks.

Covering Base Costs

Of specific note in this request, is the university's renewed ability to carry an increasing portion of the incremental costs associated with base services. Over the four-year period FY00-FY03, the university increment request is \$2 million less from general fund for these base requirements while the university expects to cover \$5.2 million more from external sources. Specific to salary maintenance requirements, UA's state funding increment request is only \$50,000 higher than UA's state request in FY00. Through non-general fund sources, the university will carry an additional \$2.1 million of the salary increment request.

Slowing the "Brain Drain"

Slowing Alaska's "brain drain" by attracting and retaining Alaska students remains a major goal for the university, which has experienced remarkable success in the last two years in attracting Alaska's college-bound students. One of the first programs started by President Hamilton was the UA Scholars Program which offers four-year, \$11,000 scholarships to the top 10% of the graduates from qualified Alaska high schools each year. Specific to UA Scholars and classic first-time freshmen, UA's numbers have increased more than 10% annually. Preliminary figures show UA has 371 new

scholars, which represents 41% of those eligible. This is approaching the university's goal of enrolling 50% of eligible UA scholars. Taking a strategic approach to enroll-

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Universit of Alaska
Board of Regents
202 Butrovich Bldg.
P.O. Bo 755300
Fairbanks, AK 99775-5300